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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,786	03/29/2004	Masamoto Ito	HGM-143-A	9485
21828	7590	08/25/2006	EXAMINER	
CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES 24101 NOVI ROAD SUITE 100 NOVI, MI 48375			BOEHLER, ANNE MARIE M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3611	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/811,786	ITO ET AL.	
	Examiner Anne Marie M. Boehler	Art Unit 3611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7,8,17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6,9-16 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

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1. Claims 7, 8, 17, and 18 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on January 6, 2006.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 4, 6, 11, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kishi (USPN 4,678,223).

Kishi shows a motorcycle with a front mounted radiator 22, radiator cover 42, engine 21, and fuel tank 23. A side cover 45, on each side of the motorcycle, faces the outlet of the radiator and extends between and covers the space between the fuel tank and the engine to an area near the rear suspension 9.

4. Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kohama (USPN 4,818,012).

Kohama shows a motorcycle with a front mounted radiator 10, radiator cover 20, engine 9, and fuel tank 16. A side cover 21, on each side of the motorcycle, faces the outlet of the radiator and extends between and covers the space between the fuel tank and the engine to an area near the rear suspension 5. The side covers, shown best in Figure 4, have a convex upper portion along wall 21b and concave lower portion 21c, as broadly recited.

5. Claims 1-6, 9-16, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kofuji (PGPub 2004/0036250)

In Figure 1, Kofuji shows a motorcycle with a front mounted radiator within radiator cover 41. A side cover (unnumbered) is also shown in Figure 1, behind the radiator cover 41 and between fuel tank 14 and engine 9. The side cover has a convex upper portion and a concave lower portion and a crest there between.

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

6. Applicant cannot rely upon the foreign priority papers to overcome this rejection because a translation of said papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. See MPEP § 201.15.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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8. Claims 2, 3, 5, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kishi.

Kishi shows the side cover enclosing a substantial portion of the engine, but is silent regarding an engine control or ignition unit. However, these elements are old and well known and normally required for proper operation of the engine. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide an ignition or engine control unit near the engine, below the side plate, in order to maintain engine components together.

9. Applicant's arguments filed June 19, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Kishi and Kohama fail to teach a side cover that extends only between a lower side of the fuel tank and an upper side of the engine. However, applicant has not claimed the cover "only" extending between these motorcycle parts. Applicant's present claim language reads "a side cover is disposed in a position facing said air discharge port and covers a side area extending between a lower surface of the fuel tank and an upper surface of the engine. The claimed structure is clearly not limited to only the space between the fuel tank and the engine. Kishi and Kohama both teach structures that span that area, therefore, the rejection is being maintained.

Applicant argues that Kohama fails to teach a radiator cover with a discharge port because the back end of the Kohama cover is open, rather than showing discrete holes in the walls of the cover. The examiner disagrees with applicant's assertion that a "port" must be a hole in a wall. The term may broadly be interpreted as a hole or

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opening or outlet and need not be formed in a lateral wall. Kohama shows a front cover with air inlets and a rear end that is open to form an outlet port that discharges air from the radiator. This interpretation is believed to be consistent with the conventional meaning of "port".

Applicant argues that Kohama fails to teach the claimed concave and convex surfaces recited in claims 9 and 10. The examiner disagrees. Applicant's broad claim language reads on the concave and convex surfaces of the side covers shown in Figure 4. Inclined surface 21b forms a convex upper surface and side surface 21c is convex. Therefore, the claim language is believed to be met.

Applicant indicates that the rejection in view of Kofuji is overcome by a certified translation of applicant's priority document. However, a cover of this document is not present in case. Therefore, it cannot be relied upon to overcome the rejection. Applicant also argues that the text of Kofuji lacks a discussion of the side cover. However, Figure 1 of Kofuji drawings clearly shows a side cover including the shape claimed. Reference drawings are part of the overall disclosure and cannot be ignored. They must be considered for what they teach. In the present case, they show side covers, and the detailed disclosure describes other claimed structure, including the frame, engine, fuel tank, etc. Therefore, Kofuji is believed to teach applicant's claimed invention.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne Marie M. Boehler whose telephone number is 571-272-6641. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00, Monday-Thursday, and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris can be reached on 571-272-6612. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 8/21/08

Anne Marie M. Boehler
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3611

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